

January

Magic Lantern Society
of the United States and Canada



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects



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The Magic Lantern Calendar – January 2022

Events

January 22, 2022, *Annual General Meeting*, Magic Lantern Society, London, England.

February 22, 2022, *Of Magic Lanterns and Kirttan Bands*: Technology, spectacle, and performance in colonial India, Penn Music Building, University of Pennsylvania Arts & Sciences Department of Music lecture by Anna Schultz, 201 S. 34th Street, Room 101, Philadelphia, PA.

April 2022, date TBA, *In-Person meeting of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, North-East*, planning for the next MLS convention, meeting to be held at the Institute for Industrial Art and History, North Andover, MA. Contact MLS Vice President Karl Link for details: singslipslidesong@gmail.com.

April 29 – May 1, 2022, *11th International Magic Lantern Convention*, Magic Lantern Society, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Birmingham, England. Early registration through February 28, 2022 at <http://www.magiclantern.org.uk/convention2022/booking.php>.

May 5 –7, 2022, *The Magic Lantern in Leisure*, Entertainment and Popular Culture, B-Magic Final Conference, Antwerp Belgium.

Pre-conference Event at CINEMATEK Brussels, May 4, 2022. See <https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/b-magic/final-conference/>.

June 24-26, 2022, *IDMAA Media Art Exhibition 2022: Weird Media*, Winona State University, Winona Minnesota, submission deadline

February 1, 2022, <http://idmaa.org/conferences/idmaa-2022-weird-media/exhibition-2022-weird-media/>.

September 2022, *Magic Lantern Convention*, Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, Cleveland OH. Dates TBA.

Exhibits

Ongoing, *The Path to Cinema: Highlights from the Richard Balzer Collection*, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles CA USA. 9,000 magic lantern objects collected by former MLS president Richard Balzer.

Through April 2022, Packaged Black, “Rotating Lantern”, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA.

Through December 2026, The Story of the Moving Image, Australian Center for the Moving Image, Melbourne Australia. From magic lanterns to the latest in interactive technology.

Online

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Thursday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com.

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/>. Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>.

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids’ Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com.

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.

December Shows at Columbia State Historic Park

From Matt Schnittker
mschnitt@gmail.com

I was fortunate to get to give several short lantern shows at Columbia State Historic Park this weekend. They said I was the first person to ever use the new building. I had the Telegraph, Wet Plate/Tintypes, and of course, The Magic Lantern. I operated the lantern, my son Brandon made Tintypes, and we hoodwinked a family member into keeping an eye on the telegraph. We had about 600 visitors and I was performing non-stop. I didn't have time to take out my camera for photos but took a couple when the crowds were gone.

Here's my performing area. The Tripod I built from scratch for use with my whole plate camera. (The one below the screen).

Though it also worked quite well for the lantern. The trunk holding the lanterns is one I use to carry my equipment. The one on the right is a custom camera case I built for my whole plate camera. It served well as a bench for kids to sit on to watch the show.

The screen is just a simple piece of canvas nailed to the wall. All the windows had shutters so I could close them to keep the screen reasonably dark.



We set the Telegraph up outside the building to draw folks into the room. We didn't have a table so we just clamped it to the rails.



continued next page

December Shows Continued

The setup was a little bit odd but it did a great job attracting folks to the venue. Kids always love playing with the telegraph. “How do you backspace?”



The window on the darkroom was turned towards the outside window which provided ample light for processing. As I was operating the lantern non-stop, my son had to operate the tintype booth.



We also set up the Tintype studio and Darkroom inside the building. Guests got to experience a little bit of ether smell with their magic lantern show, but it made a nice opportunity to demonstrate multiple technologies at once. Getting to operate the tintype booth inside is a great luxury. No more dust, pine needles, and wind interfering.



**If you responded to
Karl in December,
please
do not duplicate**

Survey for In-person Meeting for 2022

We know there were some technical difficulties responding to the December ePub survey on page 6, so we are offering this second opportunity to respond with this link to a short six question survey. It will only take a minute or two of your time, we promise. *If you responded to Karl in December, please do not duplicate your response.* We'd appreciate your response by January 7, 2022. We especially hope to hear from those who might be able and interested in a meeting in the north-east United States in the spring.

Survey Link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSQ9SNG>

Specialized Collecting

Beginning next month we will looking at the world of special collections

From Wikipedia,

the free encyclopedia
The hobby of collecting includes seeking, locating, acquiring, organizing, cataloging, displaying, storing, and maintaining items that are of interest to an individual collector or group of collectors.

Some collectors are generalists with very broad criteria for inclusion, while others focus on a subtopic within their area of interest.



This will be your chance to show-off your special collection



- ✓ **What is your favorite to collect and research?**
- ✓ **Why this type or subject matter?**
- ✓ **How long have you specialized collecting?**
- ✓ **Is there a favorite in this specialized collection?**
- ✓ **Why is this special to you?**

Please share any special collection you might have!
click here to send to:
LARRY



Magic Lantern to Sell



From Jodi Wagner

jodi@electronjungle.com

Hello!

I am writing on behalf of my father who owns a Magic Lantern and is now interested in selling it as he is moving and will not have room to keep it. He said that it was originally used in a library, is in good condition and has its original oak cabinet. He said he also has about 650 slides, at least some with a "Travel the World" theme?

This may be too much information up front but he told me that there was a Magic Lantern Society so I thought you could be a good place to start to find someone who may be interested in it. Also I should mention he lives in New Brighton PA which is a suburb north of Pittsburgh.

If you have any suggestions on finding a buyer we would very much appreciate it!

Thank you for your time,

Hello again David,

To answer your questions, all the slides are black and white, they have paper binding and are 4" x 3 1/4". He has 594 of a 600 slide set. My father said he also has 2 other projectors that are packed away that he also would like to part



with. I am unaware of the condition of those projectors.

He took several photos so I've included ones of the actual projector in this email and will follow up with 2 or 3 more emails of some slides depending on their size.

Here's my father's contact information for further questions:

James Tanner
724-846-4425
jimjan7@comcast.net
mailto:jimjan7@comcast.net

I mentioned in my last email that he lived in New Brighton PA but his new address will be Cheswick PA next week in case that matters.

Thank you again - have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Jodi Wagner
Hi David -



My dad is pretty familiar with these projectors/slides but I was not, so thank you so much for the information. I wasn't even aware he had these until recently.

We really appreciate the offer to place the photos

in your e-publication. What a great way to reach people who have interest in these old projectors. And yes, please put "Open to Offers".

Thanks very much for your help!

Sincerely,

Jodi



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From David Evans
Hello Jodi

Could you please send a couple of pictures of the lantern and, if possible, some more details of the slides, again with a few images? Are they in sets? Black & white or coloured? Size 4" x 3 1/4" I assume, or if not, what size? Wood mounted? Sorry, but it all helps to attract suitable buyers!

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans



Thank you for all that. It is apparently most of a Keystone 600 set in its original slide cabinet. The Bausch & Lomb projector is just the kind of thing that a school would have used to project the slides. As you probably know, Keystone were one of the foremost makers of slide sets for educational purposes

and aimed to get a set into almost every school in USA. They didn't quite succeed but must have come quite close to it.

We will add them to our next monthly e-publication (January) and hope for the best. May we put 'Open to Offers'?

Regards

David



New Home of Society Publications

From Ron Easterday

There is a New home for web hosting of Society Publications

All documents in newly created "Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada" Collection

The Society is pleased to announce that Society publications: All ML Bulletins, Magic Lantern Bulletins, Magic Lantern Gazettes, Research Supplements, ePubs, and the 30-year Index are now available for viewing and downloading at the Internet Archive site.

"The Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is building a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Like a paper library, we provide free access to researchers, historians, scholars, the print disabled, and the general public. Our mission is to provide Universal Access to All Knowledge." The Internet Archive site was begun in 1996.

Prior to this, San Diego State University, home of

the Homer and Betty Peabody Collection as part of its Special Collections, kindly hosted the on-line pdfs of Society Bulletins and Gazettes. In late 2021 the Society was advised that the University is planning a website redesign/consolidation and will no longer be able to host our Society publications sometime in later 2022 or 2023.



We believe the Internet Archive site will prove to be an even more accessible location for the Society publications with many search options, allowing greater public visibility for the Society and giving easier access the vast number of informational and research articles written by our members since 1979.

Internet Archive is a vast resource for information and may seem a bit daunting to

first time visitors, but we trust you will find it valuable, and not just for Magic Lantern related material.

Internet Archive organizes files in "Collections" or what might be called by some a "library" or "file folder". Internet Archive has created a Collection for the Society aptly titled "Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada."

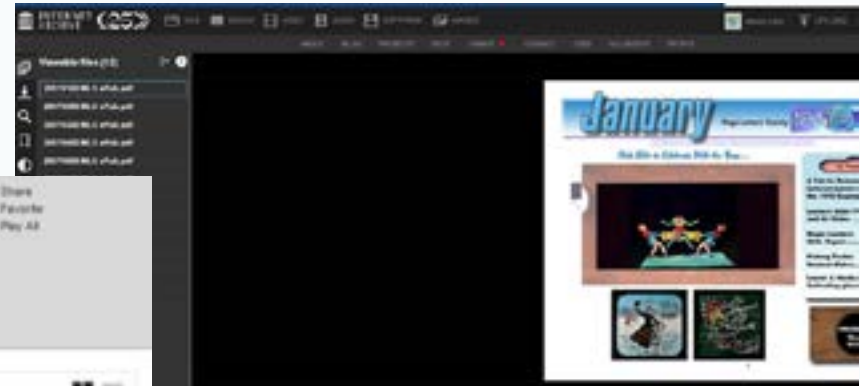
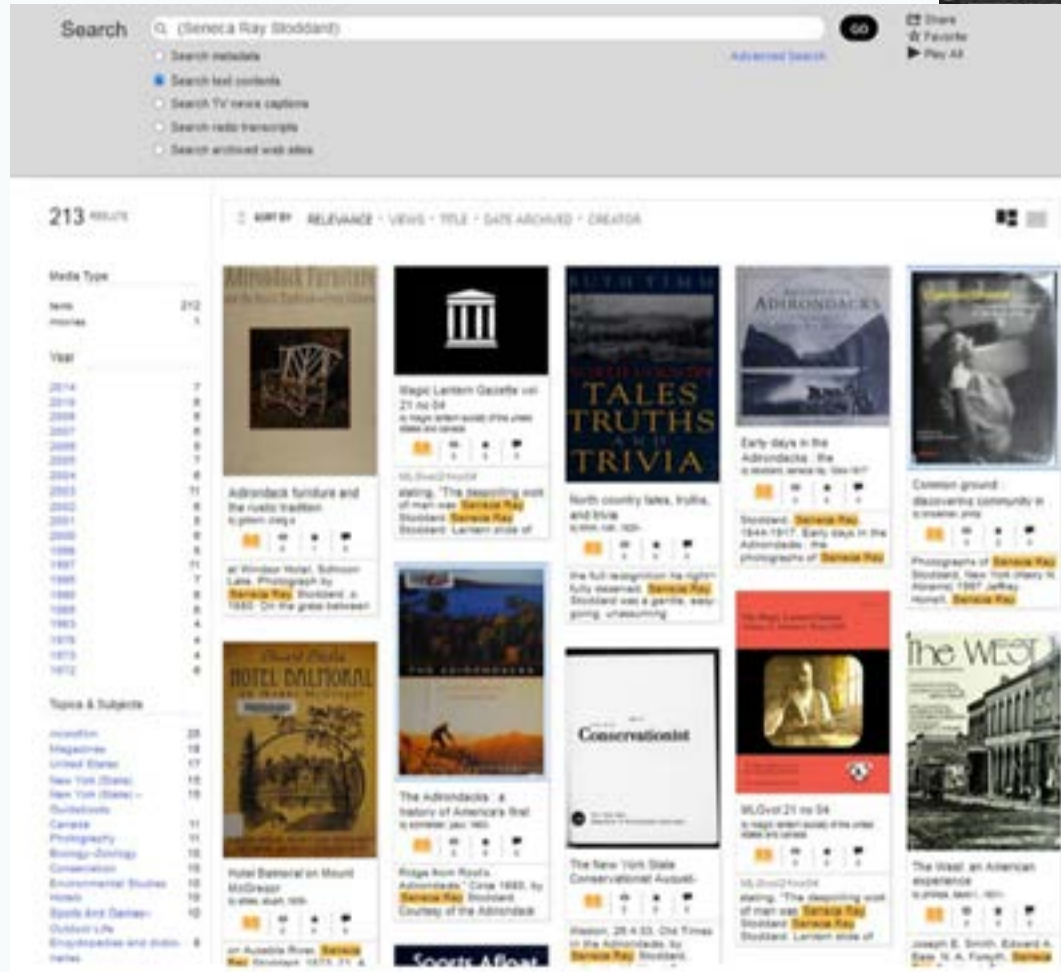
You may go directly to the Society Collection at <https://archive.org/details/magic-lantern-society>

This should result in "Thumbnail" views of all the documents. You can click on document title to view and download or narrow the search results by using the "Year" and "Topic & Subject" check boxes on the left. At the top of the thumbnails you can also sort by "Date Published" to display them in date order and change the view from "Show Thumbnails" to "Show as List" as you prefer.

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New Home of Society Publications continued

The ePubs are posted by year, if you select one you will see a list of the monthly files on the left under “Viewable Files” to click listed using the file name format of year, month, day: YYYYMMDD.



One great advantage of Internet Archive is that all files, including Society publications, are searchable in its data base. For example, if someone wants to research Seneca Ray Stoddard, enter the name in the Advanced Search, select “Search text contents” from the checklist, and you will get over 200 results, including Kentwood’s article in the MLG vol 21, no 4.

continued next page

New Home of Society Publications continued

Simply click in the issue, and it will open to the Gazette page including a “Search Inside box” with all the locations of the name. You do not have to know anything about our Society to be introduced to the Gazette.



Another easy way to find the Society Collection is from the Internet Archive homepage <https://archive.org> and simply type “magic lantern society of the united states and Canada ” in the search box. You will see just under the search box “Top Collections” which can make for even more fun and productive browsing. Enjoy!



From Tim Shinnners
TimShinnners1@gmail.com



I have a Pettibone “Peacock” magic lantern projector... but without the “Peacock Tail” (i.e. The metal rotating round

slide mechanism and metal part that holds it). Do you think any of the MLS members have an extra one for sale? I want to try to restore mine.
THANKS! Tim

If you have an extra that you want to sell:

Contact
Tim Shinnners
TimShinnners1@gmail.com



Offered For Sale 40-Page Book

From Brian Rogers

The Other Wise Man - a 40-page book with pictures of all the slides from the magic lantern set, printed by Bob Skell. The popular original short story was written by Henry Van Dyke. T.H. McAllister-Keller Co produced the 40-slide set. Bob had a complete set and produced a scrapbook showing all slides. \$60

Brian Rogers
411 Discovery Road, Port
Townsend WA 98368
(907) 460-0969 cell

Contact
Brian Rogers
briandrogers@gmail.com



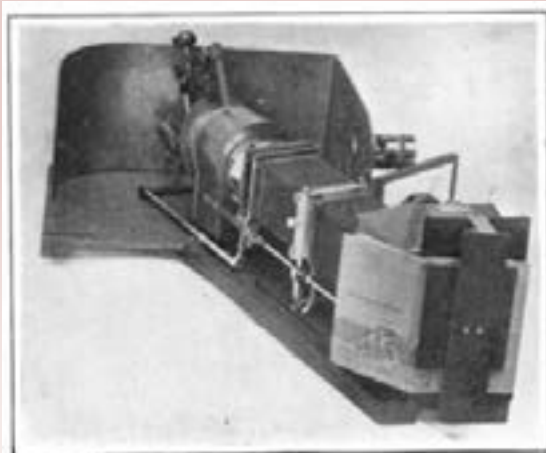
Top-Loading post bound Scrapbook with Fabric Covers 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" thick, 40 pages



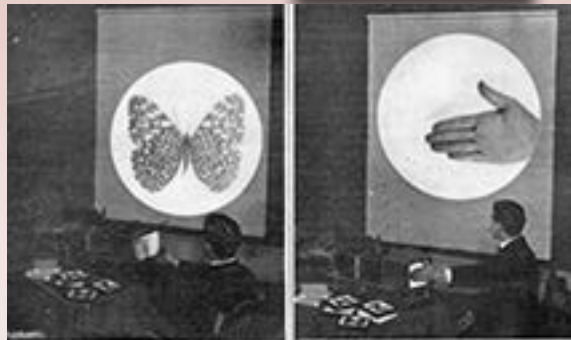
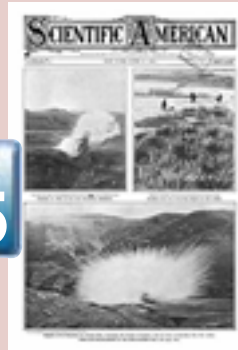
Images are printed on 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" in full color

Sample images
See Dec 2021 E-pub for images of
The Other Wise Man

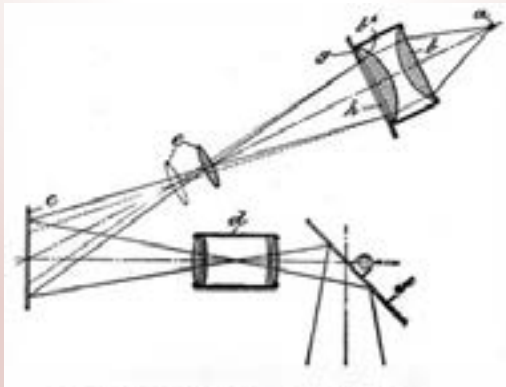
From Scientific American June 1905



The new lantern for exhibiting any object in its natural colors on the screen.



A butterfly on the screen. How the human hand is thrown on the screen.



Optical principle of the reflecting lantern.

**A Big Thank You to the following:
contributing to this months issue.**

**Ron Easterday
David Evans
Brian Rogers
Matt Schnittker
Tim Shinnars
Jodi Wagner**

**Now it's your turn to
share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

E-mail Larry

Welcome New Member

Jody Wilcox

4601 Pennsylvania St.
Longview
WA 98632
USA

Ph: (360) 751-6743

E: yodyean@msn.com

Jody is retired, interested in everything, hopes to give shows to her friends and will buy.

Heather Holian

1419 Garland Drive
Greensboro
NC 27408

Ph: (336) 601 - 6867

E: hlholian@uncg.edu

She is a professor of art history and interested in thaumatropes, praxinoscope theatres etc.